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Pettit award to be given, The Northern Iowan,
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Jo Curris to teach business law

by Elizabeth Wheeler
Staff Reporter

Students in business law classes this spring find their instructor's name sounding strangely familiar. Jo Curris, wife of UNI president Constantine Curris, is teaching two sessions each of Business Law I and II.

Although the fact that Mrs. Curris is the president's wife may raise a few eyebrows, the qualifications she brings to the job are numerous. According to Tony McAdams, head of the management department in which Mrs. Curris is working, "I felt she was the person best suited for the job."

Mrs. Curris has earned a bachelor's degree in political science and a law degree, as well as a master's degree in tax law. She practiced law for five years, taught political science and economics courses at the college level and did administrative work at a junior college. "None of this is new to me," she commented.

According to McAdams, the position Curris is temporarily filling opened near the end of last

semester when "a faculty member was unable to continue his duties." The position was advertised in the *Waterloo Courier* and *The Des Moines Register* and notices were sent to the law schools at Drake University and the University of Iowa. Mrs. Curris did not actually apply for the position, but was recommended by a local lawyer who had taught at UNI in the past.

McAdams said a search committee selected three finalists and he made the recommendation to the Dean of the College of Business. The actual appointment was made by the Board of Regents at their Dec. 20 meeting.

Although faculty appointments usually fall under a single item on the Regents' docket, the Curris appointment was handled separately because, as UNI vice president and provost James Martin explained, "We just wanted to call attention to it."

President Curris commented, "The last thing you want is for

anybody to think this wasn't brought to the light of day before the fact." He further explained, "The people in the departments make the decisions as to who's hired. No one in Gilchrist is involved in any kind of hiring of faculty."

Prison term for Griffin

by Peter Hussmann
University City News Editor

Waterloo—Michael Lee Griffin, 35, received a two-year prison sentence earlier this month for an assault on two UNI professors.

Last November a jury convicted Griffin on charges of assault with intent to inflict serious injury and simple assault.

He was accused of striking Robert Rios, head of the Political Science Department with a chair last April. R. Allen Hays, an assistant professor, was also assaulted.

The incident occurred during a meeting between the professors and Griffin concerning his grade point average and whether he would be eligible for an internship.

Griffin contended the assaults were a result of personal problems he was having, as well as a diabetic condition.

Griffin has filed a notice of appeal.

forms are available at the Department of English Language and Literature, Baker 115, and are due by March 1, 1985.

Students will be asked to submit samples of their writing with the applications. Awards will be made on the basis of recommendations of faculty and the students' achievement.

Interested students can obtain more information from professors Q.R. Schmidt, Bernard DeHoff, or Cynthia Goldstein in the Department of English Language and Literature.

Pettit, a Cedar Falls native, is now vice president of news at NBC. He began his broadcast career as a reporter for WOI-TV, Ames, after graduation. He also worked for KCRG-TV, Cedar Rapids, and WCCO-TV, Minneapolis.

In addition to eight awards for his reporting, Pettit received a UNI Alumni Achievement Award in 1972.

Pettit award to be given

Public Information Service

Applications are now available for two Tom Pettit scholarships in journalism, each worth \$200, for the next academic year at the University of Northern Iowa.

The Tom Pettit Scholarships in Journalism will be awarded at the beginning of April, 1985, to two UNI students minoring in journalism and planning a career in a field of communications.

The scholarships were funded by Tom Pettit, a 1953 UNI graduate and an award-winning reporter for NBC, when he donated his \$1,750 honorarium for speaking on campus in the spring of 1982 to the UNI Foundation for scholarships.

Jon Hall, head of the Department of Communication and Theatre Arts, recommended the money should be used to fund journalism scholarships.

Any student with at least six hours of credit in journalism courses is eligible to apply for the scholarships. Application

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